

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT		25X1
SUBJECT	VEB Stahl-und Walzwerk Riesa	DATE DISTR.	15 June 1955	
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DATE ACQUIRED		This is UNEVALUATED Information		

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1. Location

VEB Stahl-und Walzwerk Riesa is located at Riesa on the Elbe, 40 km. northwest of Dresden.

2. Reconstruction

Reconstruction after the postwar dismantling has progressed considerably. There is, however, a lack of space for transportation facilities in the plant. In July 1954, floods from the Elbe River caused a decrease in production.

3. Composition of the Planta. Steel Plant

The open hearth furnaces are each of 100 ton capacity and are built on the Maerz system. The generator gas and air control is effected by slide valves. The generator installation is situated inconveniently in relation to the rest of the plant, and, as a result, a part of the tar oils are lost through condensation. Furthermore, because the pipes are too long, the plant is frequently out of action because of dust, and when cleaning is in progress. Lime and dolomite are drawn off from high bunkers. In order to reduce loading times, scrap packing presses (Schrottpaketier Pressen) have been constructed. Complaints are seldom made about the open hearth steel which is produced.

b. Steel Foundry

The foundry which is situated in the northwest part of the plant, is not to be enlarged according to recent reports, but there is still much to be done to complete the work already planned. The project, originating from the East German State Planning Commission, to build equipment for the additional processing of steel foundry products close to the steel foundry, has probably been abandoned.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")																

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c. Rolling Mills

These consist of:

- 1 "800" reversing rolling mill for ingots,
- 1 "650" blooming mill,
- 1 "500" three-high mill,
- 1 seamless tube rolling mill (oblique rolling mill with smoothing and mass rolling) with shoe (Stiefel) and Ferrins process section,
- 1 butt welding plant - (up to 38 mm. internal diameter),
- 1 "360" thin sheet rolling mill,
- 1 "280" wire rolling mill.

Until the production now under way is finished, extensions to the rolling mills will not be carried out according to the New Course. There is frequently a shortage of suitable spare parts for the engines, which drive the rolling mills. Complaints are becoming more frequent that the material, which leaves the Riesa steel plant for further processing, contains up to 36 % waste matter. The steel plant in Thale-Harz processes the semi-finished products and raw material from Riesa and has made such complaints.

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